

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-44. (Cancelled)

45. (New) A laminate comprising a decorative upper layer, optionally a protective overlay and a base layer, wherein said decorative upper layer comprises a web of fibers having deposited therein and/or thereon photocatalyst particles embedded in a binder and wherein said base layer is selected from the group consisting of fiber board, particle board, plastic sheet or wood.
46. (New) A laminate comprising a decorative upper layer, a protective overlay and optionally a base layer, wherein said protective overlay comprises a web of fibers having deposited therein and/or thereon photocatalyst particles embedded in a binder.
47. (New) The laminate according to claim 45 or 46, wherein said fibers are cellulose fibers.
48. (New) The laminate according to claim 47, wherein said photocatalyst particles are selected from the group consisting of TiO_2 , ZnO , SiO_3 , $\text{Ti}_{1-x}\text{Sn}_x\text{O}_2$, SrTiO_3 , Fe_2O_3 , CdS , CdSe , WO_3 , FeTiO_3 , GaP , GaAs , GeAs , RuO_2 , MoS_3 , LaRhO_3 , CdFeO_3 , Bi_2O_3 , MoS_2 , In_2O_3 , CdO , SnO_2 , SiC , InP and mixtures thereof.
49. (New) The laminate according to claim 48, wherein said photocatalyst particles are TiO_2 particles.
50. (New) The laminate according to claim 49, wherein said TiO_2 particles are anatase TiO_2 particles.
51. (New) The laminate according to claim 47, wherein said photocatalyst particles are doped with elements selected from the group consisting of Nb, Mo, Cr, V, Cu, Mg, Ag, Ru, Au, N, Nd, Pd, Pt, Fe, Ni, and Mn.
52. (New) The laminate according to claim 47, wherein said binder is selected from the group consisting of melamine resin, urethane resin, celluloid, chitin, starch sheet, polyvinyl alcohol, polyester resins, urea-formaldehyde, dicyandiamide-formaldehyde, epoxy resins, polyurethane resins, (poly)silane resins, (poly)siloxane resins, silazane resins, acrylamide resins, acrylic silicon resins, acrylurethane resins, polyacrylamide resins and mixtures thereof.
53. (New) The laminate according to claim 46, wherein said the base layer is selected from the group consisting of fiber board, particle board, a plastic sheet, and wood.
54. (New) The laminate according to claim 47, further comprising at the bottom of the base layer a balancing sheet.
55. (New) A protective overlay, wherein said protective overlay comprises a web of fibers having deposited therein and/or thereon photocatalyst particles embedded in a binder, wherein said web of fiber further comprises abrasion resistant particles.
56. (New) The protective overlay according to claim 55, wherein said fibers are cellulose fibers.

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57. (New) The protective overlay according to claim 55, wherein said photocatalyst particles are selected from the group consisting of TiO_2 , ZnO , SiO_3 , $\text{Ti}_{1-x}\text{Sn}_x\text{O}_2$, SrTiO_3 , Fe_2O_3 , CdS , CdSe , WO_3 , FeTiO_3 , GaP , GaAs , GeAs , RuO_2 , MoS_3 , LaRhO_3 , CdFeO_3 , Bi_2O_3 , MoS_2 , In_2O_3 , CdO , SnO_2 , SiC , InP and mixtures thereof.
58. (New) The protective overlay according to claim 56, wherein said photocatalyst particles are TiO_2 particles.
59. (New) The protective overlay according to claim 58, wherein said TiO_2 particles are anatase TiO_2 particles.
60. (New) The protective overlay according to claim 55, wherein said photocatalyst particles are doped with elements selected from the group consisting of Nb, Mo, Cr, V, Cu, Mg, Ag, Ru, Au, N, Nd, Pd, Pt, Fe, Ni, and Mn.
61. (New) The protective overlay according to claim 55, wherein said binder is selected from the group consisting of melamine resin, urethane resin, celluloid, chitin, starch sheet, polyvinyl alcohol, polyester resins, urea-formaldehyde, dicyandiamide-formaldehyde, epoxy resins, polyurethane resins, (poly)silane resins, (poly)siloxane resins, silazane resins, acrylamide resins, acrylic silicon resins, acrylurethane resins, polyacrylamide resins and mixtures thereof.
62. (New) A method for the production of a protective overlay according to claim 55, comprising the steps of :
- a) providing a fiber web layer;
 - b) treating said fiber web layer with a photocatalyst composition comprising photocatalyst particles, a binder, abrasion resistant particles and a solvent; and
 - c) hardening said treated fiber web to obtain a protective overlay comprising a web of fibers having deposited therein and/or thereon photocatalyst particles embedded in a binder.
63. (New) The method according to claim 62, wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of water, ethylene glycol, butyl ether, ethanol, and mixtures thereof.
64. (New) The method according to claim 62, wherein said treating step (b) is an impregnating step.
65. (New) The method according to claim 62, wherein said treating step (b) is selected from the group consisting of dipping, flooding, coil coating, spraying, centrifuging, screen printing, and vacuum infiltrating.
66. (New) The method according to claim 62 wherein said drying step (c) comprises thermal hardening or radiation hardening.
67. (New) A finishing composition comprising (a) 1 to 50 % by weight of a photocatalyst composition, (b) 50 to 99 % of a liquid carrier and (c) optionally 0 to 15 % of a coacervate, wherein said

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photocatalyst composition comprises (i) 0.01 to 5 % by weight of photocatalyst particles, (ii) 0.01 to 5 % by weight of a binder and (iii) 50 to 99 % by weight of a solvent.

68. (New) The finishing composition according to claim 67, wherein said photocatalyst particles are selected from the group consisting of TiO_2 , ZnO , SiO_3 , $\text{Ti}_{1-x}\text{Sn}_x\text{O}_2$, SrTiO_3 , Fe_2O_3 , CdS , CdSe , WO_3 , FeTiO_3 , GaP , GaAs , GeAs , RuO_2 , MoS_3 , LaRhO_3 , CdFeO_3 , Bi_2O_3 , MoS_2 , In_2O_3 , CdO , SnO_2 , SiC , InP and mixtures thereof.
69. (New) The finishing composition according to claim 67 wherein said photocatalyst particle is anatase TiO_2 .
70. (New) The finishing composition according to claim 67, wherein said coacervate is selected from the group consisting of Levalin VKU-N (Bayer), Primasol SD (BASF), Irgapadol PN New (Ciba), Lyogen AF (Clariant AG), and Intratex AF (Crompton & Knowles).
71. (New) The finishing composition according to claim 67, further comprising soil and/or stain resistant products.
72. (New) The finishing composition according to claim 67, wherein the liquid carrier and the solvent are each independently selected from the group consisting of water, alkylene glycols, polyalkylene glycols, alkylene carbonates, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol and mixtures thereof.
73. (New) The finishing composition according to claim 67, wherein said binder is selected from the group consisting of melamine resin, urethane resin, celluloid, chitin, starch sheet, polyvinyl alcohol, polyester resins, urea-formaldehyde, dicyandiamide-formaldehyde, epoxy resins, polyurethane resins, (poly)silane resins, (poly)siloxane resins, silazane resins, acrylamide resins, acrylic silicon resins, acrylurethane resins, polyacrylamide resins and mixtures thereof.
74. (New) A method for the preparation of a carpet having air clarifying properties comprising the steps of: providing a finishing composition according to claim 67, and applying said finishing composition onto a carpet thereby obtaining a carpet having air clarifying properties.
75. (New) The method according to claim 74, wherein said finishing composition is provided as a foam.
76. (New) The method according to claim 74, wherein the finishing composition is applied by means of a foam applicator.
77. (New) A carpet having air clarifying properties obtained by a method according to claim 74.